

September 2023 – March 2024



the **ODDfelloWS** SINCE 1810
making friends, helping people

out & about

Heart of Norfolk



Happisburgh lighthouse North Norfolk

- | | | | |
|---|--|--|--|
|  Music |  Art/Crafts |  Online |  Dining Out |
|  Health and Wellbeing |  Games |  Day Trip |  Meetings |
|  Social |  Talks |  Coffee Morning/
Afternoon Tea |  Cinema |



Wednesday 13 December - Christmas Lunch, we hope you can join us!

Welcome to the latest edition of your events diary and newsletter for Heart of Norfolk Branch of Oddfellows.

As a local Branch of a national membership organisation called the Oddfellows, we offer you a great opportunity to make new friends and enjoy a variety of activities. We also provide our members with a range of advice and support services when you need them. We are basically a group of friends brought together through shared interest in socialising, making friends and helping people.

This issue features details of all our upcoming events.

Contact Details

Branch Secretary:
Paula Grigglesstone

Telephone: 01362 696536

Email:
paula.grigglesstone@oddfellows.co.uk

Contact: Monday, Wednesday and Thursday 9am - 4.30pm

Address: Sirius, 63 Kings Road, Dereham, Norfolk NR19 2AG

Everyone is welcome at Oddfellows events. Even if you are not a member, we want to extend an invitation to you and your friends to attend any of our events that take your fancy - we like to think that we can guarantee you a good time.

Join the fun in Friendship Month

Make someone's day and invite them along to share the friendship fun

All welcome

**ODDFELLOWS
FRIENDSHIP MONTH
1 - 30 SEPTEMBER**



Make friends with the Oddfellow



To see what's on and find out more about Friendship Month visit www.friendshipmonth.com

September - Friendship Month

ODDFELLOWS
FRIENDSHIP MONTH
1 - 30 SEPTEMBER



MON 04 Friendship Month Coffee and Cake - Ovington

10.30am £ Free hot drink and slice of cake



Do come along and join us for a coffee, chat and perhaps a slice of cake! As it's Friendship Month we are joining in with the lovely people at Ovington Village Hall. Ovington Village Hall, 5 Church Road, Ovington, Watton IP25 6RY. Contact Paula on 01362 696536.



TUES 05 FULLY BOOKED Invitation to view - Mannington Hall Tour of Gardens and House

2.30pm £ £20



Mannington Hall is a moated house built in the 15th Century and we have the opportunity to attend a guided tour. Mannington Hall, Mannington NR11 7BB. Contact Paula on 01362 696536.

THURS 14 Members Half Year Meeting

7.15pm Free



All members are welcome to join us for our Half Year Summoned Meeting. It is your opportunity to find out more about the running of the Branch and meet your committee. Dereham Meeting Point, St Withburga Lane, Dereham NR19 1ED. Contact Paula on 01362 696536.

WED 27 Friendship Month Coffee Morning and Lunch at Dereham Meeting Point

10.30am £ Free hot drinks, Lunch will be around £7



Come and join us and the members of Dereham Meeting Point for a free drink and a chance to meet new people.

Meeting Point will kindly be offering us a two course lunch for around £7, more details of how to book will follow in due course. Book by Thursday 14 September 2023. Dereham Meeting Point, St Withburga Lane, Dereham NR19 1ED. Contact Paula on 01362 696536.



October

THURS
12

Live History Talk Georgette Vale - A Royal Visit From Queen Victoria



7.30pm



Members Free
Guests £3



Georgette will be with us in disguise! This should be a very enjoyable evening - you may learn a little history of the monarch too. Non-members are more than welcome to join us - for a small fee. Light refreshments will be available. Dereham Meeting Point, St Withburga Lane, Dereham NR19 1ED. Contact Paula on 01362 696536.



WED
25

Drink, Chat and a Bite to Eat at The Bull Dereham



11am



Your first hot drink is
free of charge



Join us for our monthly chat over a coffee, perhaps even stay on for lunch. We will be in Dereham at The Bull this month. Please note the venue does not open until 11am and tables will not be reserved, so find yourself a seat and grab some friends to sit with. The Bull, 25 High Street, Dereham NR19 1DZ. Contact Paula on 01362 696536.

November

THURS
09

Murder Mystery Evening - Pasta, Passion and Pistols



7.30pm



Members Free
Guests £2



Do join us for an evening of Italian intrigue - we are hosting a murder mystery evening. Can you pick the murderer from the clues? Non-members will be made most welcome. Dereham Meeting Point, St Withburga Lane, Dereham NR19 1ED. Contact Paula on 01362 696536.

SAT
11

FULLY BOOKED The Wizard of Oz - Kings Lynn Arts Centre



2.30pm



£13



The Kings Lynn players are putting on a performance of the Wizard of Oz. Our friendly group of Oddfellows are attending. Kings Lynn Arts Centre, King Street, Kings Lynn PE30 1HA. Contact Paula on 01362 696536.



November

WED
22

**Drink, Chat and a
Bite to Eat at Shelly's
Bistro Swaffham**



11am



Free hot
drink



Do come and join us in Swaffham for our monthly catch up over a coffee. Perhaps even stay for lunch. Non-members are made most welcome. Shelly's Bistro, 5 London Road, Swaffham PE37 7DD. Contact Paula on 01362 696536.

December

THURS
07

**Jim Stebbings - A Talk
on The Sentiments of
Christmas**



7.30pm



Members Free
Guests £3



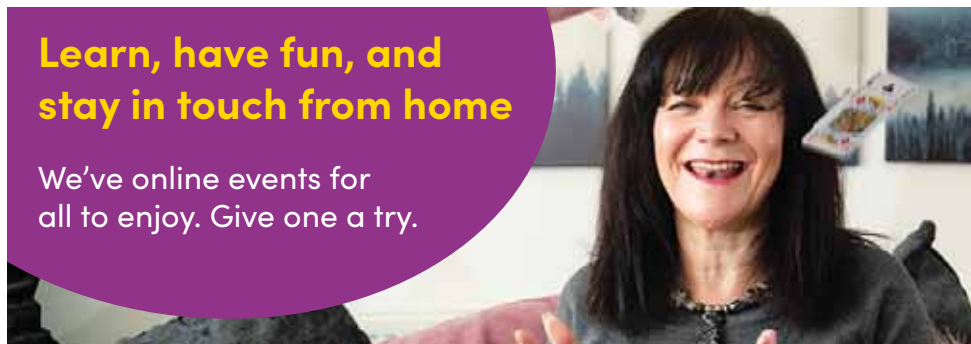
Do come and join us for a talk by Jim on the 'Sentiments of Christmas' an eclectic collection of aspects of the traditional Christmas



season conveyed through music, stories, humour, sentiments, images and pictures presented through over 100 slides. Non-members are most welcome to attend for a small fee. Light refreshments will be provided - including of course mince pies. Dereham Meeting Point, St Withburga Lane, Dereham NR19 1ED. Contact Paula on 01362 696536.

**Learn, have fun, and
stay in touch from home**

We've online events for
all to enjoy. Give one a try.



To see what's coming up visit oddfellows.co.uk/events
and enter 'Kelso' in the place name search box

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December

WED
13

Christmas Lunch



11.30am



TBC



We are hoping to arrange a Christmas lunch at Darbys. More information on menu and booking will be advised in due course. Book by Thursday 9 November 2023. Darbys Freehouse, Elsing Road, Swanton Morley NR20 4NY. Contact Paula on 01362 696536.



SUN
17

Join us for a Carol Service at Trinity Church Dereham



10.30am



Free



We have been invited to join the congregation at Trinity Church for their annual carol service, to celebrate Christmas. We will be hosting the refreshments in the church hall after the service. Trinity Methodist Church, Theatre Street, Dereham NR19 2EP. Contact Paula on 01362 696536.



January 2024

THURS
11

New Year's Catch Up and Quiz Night



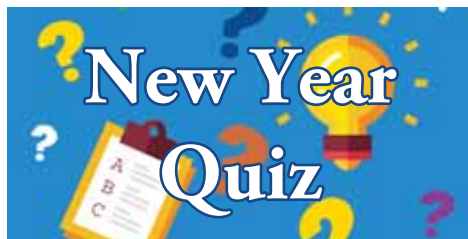
7.30pm



Free



After a busy Christmas - this evening will be a chance to catch up and relax with our friendly group. Join in with a quiz too. Friends and family are more than welcome to come along. Dereham Meeting Point, St Withburga Lane, Dereham NR19 1ED. Contact Paula on 01362 696536.



WED
24

Drink, Chat and a Bite to Eat at Norski Noo's Dereham



11am



As per menu



We are staying local to Dereham this month and visiting the café at Norski Noo's gallery. Your first hot drink is free for members



and non-members, light lunches and cakes are available to order. Norski Noo's Gallery Café, Georges Road (back of Iceland), Dereham NR19 2BX. Contact Paula on 01362 696536.

February

THURS
08

Handwriting Analysis with Patricia Field

⌚ 7.30pm

£ Members Free
Guests £2



Graphology offers insights to personality and character, relatively quickly. Symbolically, your handwriting style is associated with an individual's inner emotional state and development. Although people are taught how to write, no two are the same. Whilst Patricia is unable to give in-depth personal analysis, it should give an interesting insight into peoples personalities. Non-members are most welcome to come along. Dereham Meeting Point, St Withburga Lane, Dereham NR19 1ED. Contact Paula on 01362 696536.

WED
28

Drink, Chat and a Bite to Eat at Norski Noo's Dereham

⌚ 11am

£ As per menu



We are staying local to Dereham this month and visiting the café at Norski Noo's gallery. Your first hot drink is free for members and non-members, light lunches and cakes are available to order. Norski Noo's Gallery Café, Georges Road (back of Iceland), Dereham NR19 2BX. Contact Paula on 01362 696536.



March

THURS
14

Evening of Entertainment - More details will be advised

⌚ 7.30pm

£ Free



An evening of entertainment, full details of this social event will be advised at a later date. As always we will hold a raffle for our charity of the year. Teas or coffee will be served. Dereham Meeting Point, St Withburga Lane, Dereham NR19 1ED. Contact Paula on 01362 696536.

THURS
21

Members Annual Summoned Meeting

⌚ 7.15pm

£ Free



Calling all members! Do join us for our annual meeting which will commence at 7.15pm, it's your opportunity to find out more about the running of the Branch. Dereham Meeting Point, St Withburga Lane, Dereham NR19 1ED. Contact Paula on 01362 696536.

Further events are being added, see:
www.oddfellows.co.uk/events.

Annual Movable Conference 2023

Your Secretary attended the AMC in May, which was in sunny Eastbourne this year, pictured is our outgoing Grand Master David Ogden and members of the board of directors.



Coffee, chats and a bite to eat

We have continued with our regular monthly Wednesday daytime socials and frequented many nice venues round the region. It is a great time for a catch up over a drink and lunch. They are proving to be very popular. Most of these do not require reservations so do feel free to come along.



Evening Get-Togethers

We have had an eclectic mix of events this year from talks on the sinking of the Lusitania, getting insights into ones personality from the way you draw a tree.

Games nights including the 'Magic Table' - an interactive table top game (see photo) Plus local honey tasting event from Leigh's bees, yummy! Family and friends are always made very welcome.



Provincial Grand Master's (Chairman's) appeal 2021-2023

During the last two years members have been generous, supporting our charity of the year Tapping House Hospice. The Norfolk Hospice supports those with life limiting conditions, end of life care and bereavement. Our Regular raffles and donations amassed £1,015.

Pictured are Moira Dye and Bernard Smith presenting the cheque to Gilli a volunteer for the hospice.



Our new charity of the year for 2023-2024 is the LimbBo foundation - a charity which supports children with limb differences and their families.



This was chosen by our members as our youngest Oddfellow member is benefiting from the services they offer, so the charity is close to our hearts. We organised a tombola for the Coronation in May which was well supported by the community in Dereham, this raised £142 which was a great start to the fundraising year.

Young Oddfellows celebrating the Coronation

We sent all our Junior Oddfellows a gift to commemorate the Coronation of King Charles, which the children were very pleased to receive.



Paying your membership by Direct Debit

A new Direct Debit payment initiative was launched in January to try to make membership payments easier. So why choose Direct Debit?

- It is easy to set up, it can be done over the phone or online.
- You don't need to worry about renewing each year as the Direct Debit will automatically be taken upon your renewal date.
- You still have complete control because you can cancel whenever you want – you'll be notified of the payment 6-8 weeks in advance to give you plenty of time to make any changes.
- It's paperless and nothing has to go through the post, so no danger of it going astray.
- It is all done on a totally secure system.
- You can choose to make the membership payment over two consecutive months to help you manage your finances.
- Standard membership would be two monthly payment of £12.50 and extra benefits would be two monthly payments of £17.50.



Find out more by
contacting **Membership**
Services on 0800 028 1810



The Oddfellows is the trading name of The Independent Order of Odd Fellows Manchester Unity Friendly Society Limited, incorporated and registered in England and Wales No. 223F. Registered Office Oddfellows House, 184-186 Deansgate, Manchester M3 3WB.

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Annual conference returns to Eastbourne



Conducting important business in Eastbourne.

The May sun shone on the south coast as members from up and down the UK converged on the seaside town for the Society's annual conference. A highlight in the Oddfellows' calendar, the Annual Movable Conference (AMC) is a chance for members to catch up, reflect on the previous year, and discuss and vote on how the Society is run, as well as welcome the new Grand Master (Chairman) – Vale of York's Barbara Needham.

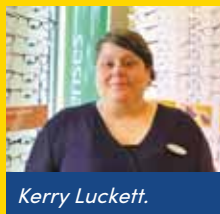
Hosted by Brighton and Sussex Oddfellows, there were a number of social activities in the schedule too. Before business got underway, members and the public were treated to another fantastic performance by Oddfellows Brass – a high point for many each year. Other events held throughout the week included the black and white-themed welcome evening, a church service where remembrance wreaths were laid, a day trip to Rye, a bowls tournament, and the Farewell Dance.



Members enjoyed the Roy Harmer Bowls Tournament.

Apprenticeship Educational Award Winner

Kerry Luckett, from Coventry Godiva Oddfellows, has been chosen as the latest recipient of an Oddfellows Apprenticeship Educational Award.



Kerry Luckett.

the classroom elements of her Optical Assistant course with Specsavers.

The Oddfellows has been backing its members who choose to undertake an apprenticeship since 2017 by providing selected applicants with a £250 non-refundable grant to go towards their studies.

Kerry, who says she is “very honoured” to have received the award, will use the money to buy a new laptop to help with

Find out more about the Educational Awards by visiting
www.oddfellows.co.uk/educational-awards

Five stars shone at the 2023 Making a Difference Awards

This year we were privileged to recognise five of our wonderful members with a Making a Difference Award during a ceremony at our annual conference.



Sue Davies Cleveland and Durham Working in the Spirit of Mutuality

This award recognises Sue's embodiment of the ethos of the Society. She joined the Oddfellows after her husband died in 2004, and within just three months of becoming a member she had already volunteered to write the Branch's newsletter.



Sue went on to organise a popular luncheon club and has helped out at a variety of other social events and on the Committee of Management.

"Oddfellows has been a lifeline to me because I have made so many new friends since joining. I have had so many new experiences and learned so much," said Sue.

"With the Oddfellows, you are never alone for long. You are made welcome at any event."

Keith and Margaret Glanville Derby Derwent Valley Achieving Together

With more than 120 years of membership between them, husband and wife, Keith



and Margaret Glanville, topped the 'Achieving Together' category for their team effort to significantly improve the lives of other members and make their Branch and the Society the best they can be.

Both have served in various roles at the Derby Derwent Valley Branch, from volunteering to both becoming Provincial Grand Master (District Chairman) – Keith twice!

Margaret described how they enjoy what they do and they were both in "absolute disbelief" when they found out. Keith added: "I've been around the block a bit and I wouldn't have missed Oddfellowship for the world."

Karen Dyke Thames and Kennet Giving a Helping Hand

Branch Secretary at Thames and Kennet, Karen frequently goes way beyond the role's expectations. She is also a welfare visitor, providing a friendly face while checking in on fellow members, often in her own time.

She is also known to give members lifts to appointments and hospital visits, and is always just a phone call away if she is needed.

Karen described working for the Oddfellows as "more than just a job", adding: "You can do a nine-to-five but for me it's more than that. It's about making my members happy and being there when they need me."



Marilyn Hayward Thames and Kennet Enriching Lives Socially

This award celebrates Marilyn's contributions to the running of Thames and Kennet Branch's social events.



Marilyn moved to Reading from Sidcup to be closer to her son when her husband died, which she described as a "big step to make".

After trying a number of social groups without much success, she then discovered the Oddfellows.

She said: "I've tried to make people feel welcome and let them know that we want to see them again. That often doesn't happen at other places. You feel like you belong here."

CEO of the Oddfellows, Jane Nelson, said: "Congratulations to all this year's winners – each of you are shining examples to us all and we are lucky to have you. The contributions you have made are invaluable to the Society and our members."

Who is your local Branch star? Member nominations are now open for the 2024 awards. To find out more, visit www.oddfellows.co.uk/makingadifference.

Members updated on HA Andrews Memorial Fund project



Left to right: Professor Edd James, the Oddfellows' CEO Jane Nelson, Nur Zainal, and Immediate Past Grand Master (Past Chairman) David Ogden.

The recipients of the HA Andrews Memorial Fund have described the honour they feel and explained how the Oddfellows' backing is fundamental to what they do.

Nur Zainal, a PhD student at the University of Southampton whose studies are being sponsored by the Fund, and one of the leaders of the research, Professor Edd James, came to the Society's annual conference in Eastbourne in May to discuss their project's progress.

The first year has been spent teaching Nur the skills she will need to carry out the research. She described the funding as "essential" and said she was honoured to receive the Oddfellows' backing.

Edd added: "Funding is shrinking, so the Oddfellows' ability to have this funding means that we can do these projects.

"This could be a step to going into clinical trials and getting much bigger sources of

funding to then take what Nur identifies and finds out during her PhD to patients and clinics in the future."

In 2022 the Centre for Cancer Immunology was awarded £100,000, which will be split over three years. The research team is looking into a specific gene which it is believed can be manipulated to target cancer cells in a new vaccine. If successful, this could profoundly change outcomes for patients with cancer, particularly lung, breast, head and neck, oesophageal and bladder cancers.

The HA Andrews Memorial Fund was created in 1971 to honour a remarkable Society Secretary, Herbert Arthur Andrews. It provides financial support over a two or three year period to a UK project or organisation involved in, or conducting, medical research. To date, thanks to generosity of individuals and Branches, it has donated £1,214,000.



Nur Zainal addresses AMC.

Find out more about the HA Andrews Memorial Fund at www.oddfellows.co.uk/ha-andrews

Oddfellows Members: Do you need help?



None of us know what is around the corner...

Local Care and Welfare Support

To request contact from a Welfare Visitor and for local help and information about Branch benefits and benevolence contact Paula on **01362 696536** or email **paula.grigglesstone@oddfellows.co.uk**.

Oddfellows Citizens Advice Line Call 0800 0149 821*

(free to callers from any landline or mobile number)

Monday - Friday, 9.30am - 4.30pm

Email: oddfellows@citizensadvicemanchester.org.uk



Run by Citizens Advice for Oddfellows members, you can access free, confidential, independent advice on welfare benefits, money and debt issues, consumer problems, housing, fuel bills, employment issues and many other issues.

*The Oddfellows cannot provide legal advice and accepts no liability whatsoever for advice provided by Citizens Advice, which is an independent advice agency. If you have any queries about the advice you have received or wish to make a complaint then you should contact Citizens Advice directly. Citizens Advice operate a formal complaints process.

Care and Welfare Helpline

Call 0800 0149 822

(free to callers from any landline or mobile number)

Monday to Thursday, 9.30am - 4.30pm, Friday, 9.30am - 4pm

Email: care@oddfellows.co.uk

Run by the Oddfellows Care and Welfare Department, you can access information and guidance on issues such as accessing health and care services, supported housing, support for carers, and planning for later life. The helpline will try and identify any Oddfellows benefits or services in the community which may be of help to you.

**Visit our website page at www.oddfellows.co.uk/benefits/care
for care and welfare information**

EDCWA50223

At a glance

September 2023 - Friendship Month

Mon 4	Friendship Month Coffee and Cake - Ovington	10.30am
Tues 5	Invitation to view - Mannington Hall Tour of Gardens and House	2.30pm
Thurs 14	Members Half Year Meeting	7.15pm
Wed 27	Friendship Month Coffee Morning and Lunch at Dereham Meeting Point	10.30am

October

Thurs 12	Live History Talk Georgette Vale - A Royal Visit From Queen Victoria	7.30pm
Wed 25	Drink, Chat and a Bite to Eat at The Bull Dereham	11am

November

Thurs 9	Murder Mystery Evening - Pasta, Passion and Pistols	7.30pm
Sat 11	The Wizard of Oz - Kings Lynn Arts Centre	2.30pm
Wed 22	Drink, Chat and a Bite to Eat at Shelly's Bistro Swaffham	11am

December

Thurs 7	Jim Stebbings - A Talk on The Sentiments of Christmas	7.30pm
Wed 13	Christmas Lunch	11.30am
Sun 17	Join us for a Carol Service at Trinity Church Dereham	10.30am

January 2024

Thurs 11	New Year's Catch Up and Quiz Night	7.30pm
Wed 24	Drink, Chat and a Bite to Eat at Norski Noo's Dereham	11am

February

Thurs 8	Handwriting Analysis with Patricia Field	7.30pm
Wed 28	Drink, Chat and a Bite to Eat at Norski Noo's Dereham	11am

March

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Thurs 21	Members Annual Summoned Meeting	7.15pm

Front cover image: SEESAW graphic design

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